

From: Kirby Thornton
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 6:24pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement.

TO: Renata B. Hesse

This is a letter I sent to the various State Atty Generals not wishing to concur on this matter under the current settlement proposal. I agree with their efforts; it was suggested that I forward my letter to you for your review and so that is now done.

Thanks you for your attention to this issue,
Kirby Thornton
PO BOX 100
Haymarket, VA 20168

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Tue, 22 Jan 2002 11:24:46 -0500
From: Richard Blumenthal <attorney.general@po.state.ct.us>
To: Kirby Thornton <rocket@cpcug.org>
Subject: Re: Please, Don't Settle with Microsoft.

Dear Attorney General,

Thank you for not just giving the Microsoft settlement a "rubber stamping" of approval. I do not believe the Federal Government's proposed settlement with Microsoft, in its current form, is adequate and that stricter measures must be imposed on the company to prohibit such anti-competitive tactic from being used in the future.

As a programmer and a system administrator, I have used a wide variety of hardware and software over the last dozen years including MVS, OS/2, many flavors of DOS, several versions on UNIX and even some Windows machines too. It saddens me when an individual with whom I have a kindred spirit goes astray... hell, just goes bad. It was unnecessary for Microsoft to engage in the practices it did but that does not mean it should not suffer as a result of its actions.

And their ways continue. Select your favorite HTTP browser and search engine and look for the phrase "Microsoft outlaws Perl" from the July 2001 timeframe. Also, you may find this an interesting read:
<http://www.zdnet.com/intweek/stories/news/0,4164,2781638,00.html>.

Contrary to arguments by Microsoft that their products encourage competition, I believe the opposite is true; that Microsoft's marketing strategies actually discourages competition and stunts technological growth.

I applaud your efforts to seek stricter measures and encourage you to stand your ground.

Regards,

Kirby Thornton
PO BOX 100
Haymarket, VA 20168

Quote of the Year, 2001:

"If they are really worried about "potentially viral software", what about Visual Basic for Applications?"

>From a USENIX note posted by "Terry Branaman" <tbranam@firstworld.net>
Date: Fri, 6 Jul 2001 15:06:53 -0600

NOTE: Most recent malicious computer code that damages Microsoft systems is written in Visual Basic.